

Guidelines for Labelling and User Information for Part 15 and Part 18 devices

The required information for labelling and user manuals depends on the type of device and the applicable equipment authorization procedure (Verification, Declaration of Conformity (DoC) or Certification).

To facilitate an understanding of labelling and user manual requirements, please review:

- Part 2 Subpart J - Equipment Authorization Procedures for the definitions and procedures for equipment authorization
- Part 15 Subpart A - General definitions of intentional radiators; unintentional radiators; digital Class A and Class B devices
- Part 15 Subpart B, C, D, E, F and G - Identifies applicable procedures for different types of Part 15 radio frequency devices
- Part 18 Subpart A - General Information, Subpart Part B - Applications and Authorizations for industrial, scientific and medical (ISM) equipment

For information about purchasing and / or to view the Commission's rules and regulations online: <http://wireless.fcc.gov/rules.html>

Labelling Requirements for Part 15 Devices:

Verification / Certification:

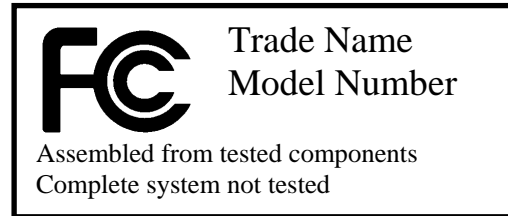
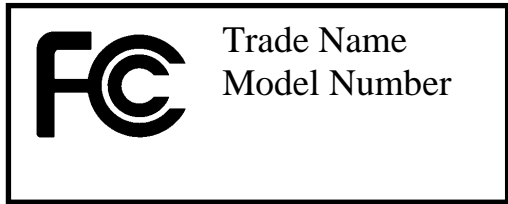
The labelling requirements for a device subject to the Verification or Certification procedures are specified in Part 2, Subpart J and Section 15.19(a). These labelling requirements are:

- One of three compliance statements specified in Section 15.19(a)
- If the device is subject only to Verification, include a label bearing a unique identifier not to be confused with the FCC Identifier (FCC ID) required on devices subject to Certification – Section 2.954
- If the device is subject to Certification, 1) Section 2.925 contains information on identification of the equipment; 2) include a label bearing an FCC Identifier (FCC ID) - Section 2.926.

If the labelling area for the device is so small, or it is not practical to place the required statement on the device, then the statement can be placed in the user manual or product packaging - Section 15.19(a)(5). Generally, devices smaller than the palm of the hand are considered small. However, the device must still be labelled with the unique identifier (Verification) or the FCC ID (Certification).

Declaration of Conformity (DoC):

The labelling requirements for a device subject to the Declaration of Conformity (DoC) procedure are specified in Section 15.19(b). The label should include the FCC logo along with the Trade Name and Model Number, which may satisfy the unique identifier requirement of Section 2.1074 if it represents the identical type equipment tested for DoC compliance. For personal computers assembled from authorized components, the following additional text must also be included: "Assembled from tested components," "Complete system not tested." When the device is so small or when it is not practical to place the required additional text on the device, the text may be placed in the user manual or pamphlet supplied to the user. However, the FCC logo, Trade Name, and Model Number must still be displayed on the device - Section 15.19(b)(3).



Part 15 Declaration of Conformity (DoC) Label Examples

Equipment certified as software defined radio may use a means that permits the FCC Identification Number (FCC ID) to be readily displayed on an electronic display screen instead of labelling the device (Section 2.925 (e)).

Labelling Requirements for Part 18 Devices:

Equipment that intentionally generates radio frequency energy for non telecommunications functions for industrial, scientific, medical (ISM) or other purposes must be authorized and labelled according to the procedures outlined in Part 2 Subpart J; Section 18.203 and Section 18.209.

Non-consumer ISM equipment is authorized under the Verification procedure. Consumer ISM equipment is authorized under either the Declaration of Conformity or Certification procedure, except that consumer ISM equipment generating less than 500 watts and operating below 90 KHz is subject to the Verification procedure.

Labelling for Verification requires a unique identifier (Section 2.954) to facilitate positive identification of the Verified device. The identification shall not be confused with the FCC ID used on devices subject to Certification

For Declaration of Conformity the device shall be permanently labelled with the Part 18 logo (Section 18.209) illustrated below, in addition to a unique identifier (Section 2.1074) to facilitate positive identification.



Part 18 Declaration of Conformity (DoC) Logo

Labels for Part 18 devices subject to Certification require an FCC identifier pursuant to Section 2.926

Label Location for Part 15 and 18 Devices:

The label shall be etched, engraved, stamped, indelibly printed, or permanently affixed to a permanently attached part of the equipment and be visible at the time of purchase on the exterior of the equipment enclosure.

As an option to placing the FCC label on the exterior of the device, the FCC label may be placed in a user accessible area if the following conditions are met:

- The device is handheld (notebook computers are considered as handheld).
- The FCC Identifier (ID) is visible at the time of purchase. Marketing the device without the battery installed when the label is in the battery compartment is acceptable. The FCC ID on the box or additional documentation directing the user where to find the FCC label also satisfies this requirement.
- The user accessible area must not require any special tools for access and the FCC label must not be placed on a removable part.
- The FCC ID, Model Number, or FCC logo must be on the label and must meet all general labeling requirements or policies that apply for Certification, Verification of Declaration of Conformity (DoC); e.g., for Certification, for handheld Part 15 or 18 devices.

User Manual and User Information for Part 15 Devices:

Section 15.21 requires that in the user manual, the user shall be cautioned that changes/modifications not approved by the responsible party could void the user's authority to operate the equipment. The acceptable formats for user information dissemination are paper, computer disk or over the Internet. Where special accessories, such as shielded cables and/or special connectors, are required to comply with the emission limits, the instruction manual shall include appropriate instructions on the first page of the text concerned with the installation of the device - Section 15.27(a).

For a Class A or Class B digital device (unintentional radiator), as well as any composite device that is both an intentional and unintentional radiator, the text specified in Section 15.105 must be placed in the user manual.

Devices authorized under the Declaration of Conformity (DoC) procedure must also include a compliance information statement (in the user manual or separate sheet) as required by Section 2.1077. The main objective of this compliance statement is to allow the FCC to associate the equipment with the party responsible for compliance with the DoC requirements.

Devices certified as software defined radio that use an electronic label method to display the FCC ID must provide instructions in the user manual on how to access the electronic display (Section 2.925(e)).

Additional statements and information may be required for compliance to specific or general rule parts. The following is an example of some additional user information requirements. The party responsible for compliance must provide any additional statement(s) required.

- Kits - TV interface and Cable system terminal device marketed as Kits: 15.25 (d)
- TV interface devices, including cable system terminal devices: 15.115 (c) (5)
- Labeling of digital cable ready products: 15.123; use of the term cable ready/compatible

- External power amplifiers and antenna modifications: 15.204 (d) (2); notice of authorized amplifiers
- Cordless telephones: 15.214 (c) & (d) (3); privacy statement & security code statement
- Cordless telephones: 15.233 (b) (2) (ii); interference to TV
- Cordless telephones: 15.233 (h); cordless phones without digital security (15.214)
- Professionally installed systems: 15.247 (c) (1) (iii)
- Operation within the Band 92-95 GHz: 15.257 (a) (4); indoor use only
- Unlicensed PCS: 15.311; notification and coordination with UTAM
- RF exposure statements: Mobile devices: 2.1091 (d) (3); a minimum separation distance may be required

User Manual and User Information for Part 18 Devices:

For all industrial, scientific, medical (ISM) devices, the instruction manual, or if no instruction manual is provided the product packaging, must provide information (Section 18.213) that addresses the following: (1) interference potential of the device, (2) maintenance of the system and (3) simple measures that can be taken to correct interference. RF lighting devices must add a statement similar to the following: "This product may cause interference to radio equipment and should not be installed near maritime safety communications equipment, ships at sea or other critical navigation or communications equipment operating between 0.45-30 MHz."

In addition, Part 18 devices that are authorized under the Declaration of Conformity procedure shall also include in the instruction manual, separate sheet, or on the packaging the following: identification of the product (e.g. name and model number), a statement similar to "This device complies with Part 18 of the FCC Rules" (Section 18.212), and the name and address of the responsible party (Section 2.909).

Composite Devices:

A composite device is subject to two or more technical rule parts and requires testing and labelling appropriately for each of the respective component rule parts. However, as a practical rule, only one text or FCC logo need be labelled on a device. As a general rule the Declaration of Conformity (DoC) text statement is required over any Verification statement. For composites subject to DoC and Verification, or Certification and Verification, the labelling requirements for DoC or Certification need only apply. This does not remove the testing requirement for each individual device in a composite device. For composite devices subject to DoC and Certification, both the DoC logo and FCC ID (or FCC IDs when applicable) are required for composite DoC and Certified devices. Devices subject to DoC for both Part 15 and Part 18 may use only the Part 15 logo.

For information to users, all relevant instructions that pertain to all components of a composite device are required. For example, Class A or Class B statements in Section 15.105; all warning statements and special instructions as required by Sections 15.21 and 15.27; and all Part 18 applicable instructions must be clearly stated. However, realistic variations in editing to clarify the language and structure are permitted as long as all the relevant points applicable to all of the components are represented.